

## STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY P.O. BOX 818 DOVER, DELAWARE 19903-0818

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## SECRETARY MITCHELL NAMED TO JOHNS HOPKINS ADVISORY BOARD FOR PREPAREDNESS AND CATASTROPHIC EVENT RESPONSE

This week, the Johns Hopkins Center for the Study of Preparedness and Catastrophic Event Response (PACER) named David B. Mitchell, Secretary for the Department of Safety and Homeland Security, to its Advisory Board for Preparedness and Catastrophic Event Response.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to join with fellow PACER Advisory Board members to discuss current homeland security concerns and, more importantly, to outline strategies to address these issues. The contributions of the Advisory Board will not only help emergency preparedness leaders in our State but also those across the country," Secretary Mitchell said.

The PACER Center is the most recently awarded Department of Homeland Security Center of Excellence conducting research on issues of national preparedness and response to major events. The mission of PACER is to improve the nation's preparedness and its ability to respond to a high consequence event by developing and disseminating best scientific practices.

PACER is divided into four major areas of research which incorporate a total of 16 research projects. The areas of research include: Preparedness Theory and Practice; Response Networks; Analysis Modeling and Simulation; and Science Technology and Engineering. An additional area of focus is dedicated to education and the development of the future Homeland Security workforce.

As a member of the Advisory Board, Secretary Mitchell will join 14 other board members in providing advice regarding the direction of the Center's current research and feedback on ideas for future research plans.

